

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

CATEGORY = 10

M = 229

MESSAGE = 00072146

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TO OSCAR/UNIFORM ALFA [] C/DCPG CNO []

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~~SECRET SPOKE~~ SECTION ONE

XXMM

ENP#1-TB31128 2/0/VCM:R766-68 WEEKLY BOMB DAMAGE A SSESMENT SUMMARY XXCC
INTRODUCTION THIS REPORT IS A CONSOLIDATION OF BOMB DAMAGE-RELATED INFORMATION
OBTAINED FROM GDRS AND OTHER VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST GROUND FORCES COMMUNICATIONS.
ALL INFORMATION APPEARING IN THIS REPORT HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY REPORTED. PRINCIP
ALLY IN THE DAILY ISSUES OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN SIGINT SUMMARY (3/01/68-68
THROUGH 3/01/68-68). THE "HIGHLIGHTS" SECTION IS A NARRATIVE COMMENT ON
TRENDS OR POINTS OF INTEREST THAT MAY BE DEDUCED FROM THE OVERALL MESSAGE
VOLUME. THE TABULAR SECTION, FOLLOWING, IS A LISTING OF ALL REPORTED AIR
ACTIVITY COLUMN ONE IS THE DATE/TIME SEQUENCE OF ACTION (DASHES INDICATE
SPECIFIC TIMES UNKNOWN). COLUMN TWO IDENTIFIES THE NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT ENGAGED
IN THE ACTION. COLUMN THREE IDENTIFIES THE TARGET. AND THE LAST COLUMN PRESENTS
INFORMATION AS TO THE NATURE OF THE AIR ACTION ALONG WITH OTHER REMARKS WHEN
APPROPRIATE. ALL IDENTIFICATIONS ARE GIVEN AS REPORTED IN THE MESSAGES AND ARE,
OF COURSE, SUBJECT TO ERROR. ON THE AFTERNOON OF 24 DECEMBER (1530G) A F-105,
ONE OF FOUR F-105S ENGAGED IN A STRIKE AGAINST A FORD IN THE TA LE AREA
(17-13N 106-08E) WAS SHOT DOWN IN FLAMES BY COMPANY 4, 18TH AAA BATTALION. THE
MESSAGE REPORTING THIS SHOOTDOWN STATED THAT THE PILOT HAD EJECTED. A LATER
MESSAGE, TRANSMITTED AT 1803G, STATED THAT A HELICOPTER, ACCOMPANIED BY ONE
AD-6, HAD UNSUCCESSFULLY ATTEMPTED TO RESCUE THE PILOT AND THAT THE UNIT WOULD
AMBUSH THE RESCUE AIRCRAFT WHEN THEY RETURNED THE NEXT MORNING. ON THE NEXT
DAY, 25 DECEMBER, A MESSAGE TRANSMITTED AT 1129G REPORTED THAT A RESCUE
HELICOPTER, WITH A MAN CLIMBING ITS LADDER, HAD BEEN SHOT DOWN THAT MORNING.
THE MESSAGE ADDED THAT NO RESCUE WAS POSSIBLE. ACCORDING TO COLLATERAL
INFORMATION, A F-105 (PANDA-1) WAS SHOT DOWN AT 1550G ON THE 24TH IN THE
VICINITY OF WD 9298. AN ATTEMPTED HELICOPTER RESCUE WAS CONDUCTED THE FOLLOWING
MORNING WITHOUT SUCCESS BUT THE HELICOPTER WAS NOT SHOT DOWN. OTHER
DEVELOPMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH AIR ACTIVITY DIRECTED AGAINST IN FILTRATION
TARGETS IN THE LAOTIAN PANHANDLE REVEAL CONTINUING CONSTRUCTION OF DUMMY ROADS,
THE REPAIR OF ROADS DAMAGED BY BOMBING ATTACKS, AND SOME PROBLEMS CAUSED BY
MINES AND DELAYED ACTION BOMBS. IN ADDITION, IT IS OF INTEREST THAT A "GROUP
COMMANDER", PRESUMABLY THE COMMANDER OF THE 559TH TRANSPORTATION GROUP, PASSED
THROUGH THE AREA. ELEMENTS OF THE 18TH AND 22ND AAA BATTALIONS WERE CHARGED
WITH INSURING HIS SAFETY. THERE WERE TWO MESSAGES THAT DEALT WITH THE BUILDING
OF DUMMY ROADS, BOTH WERE ORIGINATED BY THE 18TH AAA BATTALION AND DATED 24

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DECEMBER. ONE MESSAGE STATED THAT DUMMY ROADS WERE BEING BUILT IN THE ENTIRE BAN KHA AREA (17-08N 105-57E). THE OTHER MESSAGE STATED THAT A DUMMY ROAD HAD BEEN BUILT "GOING DOWN" TO LEN DA (17-11N 106-09E). XXHH 988 NNNN

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